

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendment and the following remarks.

By the foregoing amendment, claims 1, 2, 4, 5, and 7-10 have been amended. Claims 1-12 are currently pending in the application and subject to examination.

In the Office Action mailed November 3, 2004, claims 4, 7, and 9 were objected to due to certain informalities. Claims 4, 7, and 9 have been amended responsive to this objection. If any additional amendment is necessary to overcome this objection, the Examiner is requested to contact the Applicant's undersigned representative.

Claims 2-10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claims 1-12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,236,955 to Summers (Summers). To the extent that the rejection(s) remain applicable to the claims currently pending, the Applicant hereby traverses the rejection, as follows.

Claims 2-10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Regarding the rejection of claims 2-3, 5, and 7-10, the rejection has been overcome by amendments to the claims, and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Regarding the rejection of claim 4 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, the Office Action states that the layered structure recited in the claim is unclear. The Applicants note that this claim has been amended slightly for clarity, and further note that the layered structure of the axes is discussed, for example, on pages 21-23 of the specification. Thus, amended claim 4, as viewed in light of the specification, particularly

points out and distinctly claims the subject matter regarded as the invention, and the Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

Regarding the rejection of claim 6 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, the Office Action states that the term "sets of evaluations" is confusing in light of the other sets recited in claim 5. We note that the sets recited in claim 5, as well as the sets recited in claim 6, refer to the sets extracted by the extracting processor. As these sets are the same, it is proper to use the same term. The Applicants note that claim 5 has been amended slightly such that claim 5 and claim 6 now include the similar terminology. In light of this, withdrawal of the rejection of claim 6 is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being unpatentable over Summers. In making this rejection, the Examiner states that Summers teaches each and every element of the claimed invention. It is noted that claims 1, 2, 4, 5, and 7-10 have been amended by this response. The rejection of claims 1-12 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) is respectfully traversed.

Summers teaches systems and methods for training business students. A computer simulation allows a student to design products with various attributes and determine how many of each product to produce. Based on the type and number of products produced, the student gains or loses market share.

As shown in Figs. 4-7, products are described by a plurality of attributes. The attributes can be represented as axes in a multidimensional space, and a product can be represented by its position in the multidimensional space. The product value can be represented as another axis in the multidimensional space. See col. 10-12. As shown

in Fig. 11, a market database is displayed to a student. The market database displays the attributes for each product, as selected by the student, and the number of units sold, the result of a simulation.

Summers teaches that the product attributes and values are used in a simulation. However, the attributes taught by Summers are physical characteristics of products, and are selected by the students during product design. As such, the attributes of Summers are not comparable to the evaluation values of the present invention, which contain the results of a business unit evaluation. Furthermore, Summers does not disclose or suggest storing data in sets that have different values on a first axis and the same values on other axes.

Therefore, Summers does not teach or suggest a business position display system comprising "a storage device for storing a plurality of sets of evaluation values for every business unit to be analyzed, each set of the evaluation values contains the results of a business unit evaluation in accordance with a plurality of evaluation factors, said set of evaluation values having an attribute representing a condition of the evaluation, said set of evaluation values having a plurality of values on a plurality of evaluation factor axes, said set of evaluation values further having different values on a first evaluation factor axis and having the same values on all other evaluation factor axes," as recited in claim 1 of the present invention.

Furthermore, Summers teaches that a market database is displayed to a student. The market database contains the attributes of each product and the simulated number of units sold. Summers does not teach or suggest a business position display system comprising "a coordinate calculating processor calculating coordinates in a multi-

dimensional space in accordance with the set of evaluation values extracted by the extracting processor" or "a display processor showing an object at a position corresponding to the coordinates calculated by said coordinate calculating processor in said multi-dimensional space on a screen," as recited in claim 1 of the present invention.

Thus, Summers does not teach or suggest the combination of features recited in claim 1, and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 1 is respectfully requested.

Claims 2-10 are dependent on claim 1 and recite further features of the invention. As claim 1 is patentable over the art of record, so dependent claims 2-10 are patentable. Thus, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 2-10 is respectfully requested.

Independent claims 11-12 contain language similar to that recited in claim 1, and are patentable for reasons similar to those discussed above in reference to claim 1. Thus, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 11-12 is respectfully requested.

For all of the above reasons, it is respectfully submitted that the claims now pending patentability distinguish the present invention from the cited references. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections and an issuance of a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

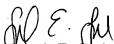
Should the Examiner determine that any further action is necessary to place this application into better form, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned representative at the number listed below.

In the event this paper is not considered to be timely filed, the Applicants hereby petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fee for this extension may be charged to our Deposit Account No. 01-2300. The Commissioner is hereby

authorized to charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 01-2300.

Respectfully submitted,

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